

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for purification of an acrylic acid family, which is an apparatus for distillation purification of the acrylic acid family encompassing acrylic acid and its esters and comprises:

a distillation column to which a liquid containing the acrylic acid family is supplied, and from the column top of which a vapor is retrieved, and from the column bottom of which a liquid is retrieved;

10 a condenser which is connected to the column top side of the distillation column, and to which the vapor having been retrieved from the distillation column is supplied, and which condenses the supplied vapor and then refluxes a portion of the resultant condensate to the distillation column, and from which the residual condensate is retrieved; and

15 a reboiler which is connected to the column bottom side of the distillation column, and to which the liquid in the distillation column is supplied, and which heat-boils the supplied liquid and then returns it to the distillation column;

wherein the reboiler is set in a number of at least two in parallel to the distillation column.

20 2. An apparatus for purification of an acrylic acid family according to claim 1, wherein the condenser is disposed in a number of at least two in parallel to the distillation column.

25 3. An apparatus for purification of an acrylic acid family according to claim 1, wherein:

the distillation column is the shape of a cylinder having an outer diameter of 2 to 6 m;

the at least two reboilers are disposed symmetrically as to the center of the

distillation column in a horizontal direction; and

the distillation column and the reboilers are connected to each other through liquid-retrieving pipes for retrieving the liquid from the distillation column and then supplying the retrieved liquid to each of the reboilers and through vapor-returning

5 pipes for returning a vapor from each of the reboilers to the distillation column.

4. A process for purification of an acrylic acid family, which is a process for distillation purification of the acrylic acid family with the apparatus for the purification as recited in claim 1,

10 with the process comprising the steps of supplying the liquid from the distillation column to the at least two reboilers and returning the heat-boiled vapor from the reboilers to the distillation column.